

"Are Things Getting Better or Worse, and Why?  
The Role of Social Indicators to Inform Public Policy"  
ISA – Working Group 06 "Social Indicators"  
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Session chairs:

Liz Eckermann, Ferran Casas, Wolfgang Glatzer, Valerie Møller,  
Heinz-Herbert Noll, Mariano Rojas, Ruut Veenhoven

**Session 1: Indicators and Their Use to Guide Policies in the Field of Health**  
**Chair: Heinz-Herbert Noll, GESIS-ZUMA, Mannheim, Germany,**  
**[heinz-herbert.noll@gesis.org](mailto:heinz-herbert.noll@gesis.org)**

Presenters:

Krishna Mazumdar, Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, India,  
[bose\\_krishna1949@yahoo.co.in](mailto:bose_krishna1949@yahoo.co.in): *Achivements In Life Expectancy And Infant Survival Rate: Cross-Country Variations*

Lars Eric Kroll, Robert Koch-Institut, Berlin, Germany, [KrollI@rki.de](mailto:KrollI@rki.de) ; Thomas Lampert, Robert-Koch-Institut, Berlin, Germany, [LampertT@rki.de](mailto:LampertT@rki.de) ; Cornelia Lange, Robert-Koch-Institut, Berlin, Germany, [LangeC@rki.de](mailto:LangeC@rki.de) ; Thomas Ziese, Robert-Koch-Institut, Berlin, Germany, [ZieseT@rki.de](mailto:ZieseT@rki.de) : *Healthy Life Expectancy as an indicator to compare the health of societies*

Liz Eckermann, Deakin University, Geelong, Australia, [liz.eckermann@deakin.edu.au](mailto:liz.eckermann@deakin.edu.au) : *Critique of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): Is maternal mortality a sufficient indicator to guide international health policy for pregnancy and parity? A case study of Lao PDR*

Karen M. Jennison, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, USA, [karen.jennison@unco.edu](mailto:karen.jennison@unco.edu) ; Kenneth A. Johnson, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, USA, [kennjohn@comast.net](mailto:kennjohn@comast.net) : *Cross-National comparisons of episodic heavy binge drinking and smoking convergence in 25 European countries and the United States: Evidence of the cooccurrence of health risk behaviors from two national surveys*

Laura Corradi, Università della Calabria, Italy, [laura.corradi@unical.it](mailto:laura.corradi@unical.it) : *Privatization and Worsening of Health Systems: the Role of Class Variables and Socio-economic Status*

Cormac Forkan, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland, [cormac.forkan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:cormac.forkan@nuigalway.ie): Tracking Child Outcomes in Youth and Family Support Projects in Ireland

**Session 2: The Role of Social Indicators for Community Level Policies**  
**Chair: Ruut Veenhoven, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands,**  
**[veenhoven@fsw.eur.nl](mailto:veenhoven@fsw.eur.nl)**

Presenters:

Jo Van Assche, Ghent University, Belgium, [jo.vanassche@ugent.be](mailto:jo.vanassche@ugent.be) ; Thomas Block, Ghent University, Belgium, [thomas.block@ugent.be](mailto:thomas.block@ugent.be) ; Filip De Rynck, Technical University Ghent, Belgium, [filip.derynck@hogent.be](mailto:filip.derynck@hogent.be); Herwig Reynaert, Ghent University, Belgium, [herwig.reynaert@ugent.be](mailto:herwig.reynaert@ugent.be) : *Are things getting better or worse in Flemish cities? The case of the Flemish city monitor*

Manfred Garhammer, Georg-Simon-Ohm-Hochschule, Nuremberg, Germany, [Manfred.Garhammer@ohm-hochschule.de](mailto:Manfred.Garhammer@ohm-hochschule.de): *The role of social indicators systems to monitor integrated urban development policies*

Valerie Møller, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, [V.Moller@ru.ac.za](mailto:V.Moller@ru.ac.za) :  
*Monitoring Perceptions of Social Progress and Pride of Place in a South African Community*

Changcheng Zhou, Wuhan University, China, [cczhou2001@yahoo.com](mailto:cczhou2001@yahoo.com): *Surveying Quality of Life in Chinese Cities*

Fabrizio D'Ovidio, University of Teramo, Italy, [fdovidio@libero.it](mailto:fdovidio@libero.it): *Social Indicators in Local Development: "conciliation family-work" issue in Italy*

Christopher L. Fulcher, University of Missouri, Columbia, [FulcherC@missouri.edu](mailto:FulcherC@missouri.edu) ; Joyce Essien, Emory University, USA ; [jessien@sph.emory.edu](mailto:jessien@sph.emory.edu) ; Jeff Etchason, Penn State College of Medicine, USA , [Jeff.Etchason@lvh.com](mailto:Jeff.Etchason@lvh.com), Roxanne Medina-Solomon, Trident United Way, Charleston, South Carolina, USA, [RSolomon@tuw.org](mailto:RSolomon@tuw.org) : *Deliberation Technology and Community Issues Management: A Global Framework for Visualizing and Analyzing the Impact of Place-based Public Policy*

### **Session 3: Comparative Social Indicators for Public Policies – Europe**

**Chair: Wolfgang Glatzer, University of Frankfurt, Germany, [glatzer@soz.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:glatzer@soz.uni-frankfurt.de)**

Presenters:

Daniel Oberski, ESADE, Barcelona, Spain, [daniel.oberski@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.oberski@gmail.com) ; Willem E.Saris, ESADE Barcelona, Spain, [w.saris@telefonica.net](mailto:w.saris@telefonica.net) : *Social indicators for Public Policy in a comparative perspective*

Noelia Somarriba, University of Valladolid, Spain, [nsomarri@eco.uva.es](mailto:nsomarri@eco.uva.es): *Approach To The Measurement Of The Individual and Social Quality Of Life In Europe*

Andranik Tangian, Hans Boeckler Foundation, Duesseldorf, Germany, [andranik-tangian@boeckler.de](mailto:andranik-tangian@boeckler.de): *Is work in Europe decent? A study based on the 4th European survey of working conditions 2005*

Srna Mandič, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, [srna.mandic@fdv.uni-lj.si](mailto:srna.mandic@fdv.uni-lj.si) ; Andreja Cirman, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, [andreja.cirman@ef.uni-lj.si](mailto:andreja.cirman@ef.uni-lj.si) : *Housing Outcomes And Structural Determinants: Comparisons Within The Enlarged EU*

José António Pereirinha, Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal, [pereirin@iseg.utl.pt](mailto:pereirin@iseg.utl.pt) : *Women and Poverty in the European Union: contribution to the discussion of a new set of social indicators*

Siniša Zrinščak, University of Zagreb, Croatia, [sinisa.zrinscak@zg.t-com.hr](mailto:sinisa.zrinscak@zg.t-com.hr): *Cognitive Europeanization And Social Reality: Role Of Social Indicators In Post-Communist Transformation*

**Session 4: Social Indicators for Public Policies - Asia and Latin America**  
**Chair: Ferran Casas, Facultat de Ciències Econòmiques i Empresarials, Girona, Spain, [ferran.casas@udg.es](mailto:ferran.casas@udg.es)**

Presenters:

Siri Hettige, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, [shtetti@webmail.cmb.ac.lk](mailto:shtetti@webmail.cmb.ac.lk) : *Role of Social Indicators to Inform Public Policy: The Case of Sri Lanka at a Time of Rapid Socio-economic Change*

Mariano Rojas, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales-Mexico and Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla, Mexico, [mariano.rojas.h@gmail.com](mailto:mariano.rojas.h@gmail.com) : *The Four Qualities Of Life In Latin America*

Maikol Elizondo-Lara, Universidad de las Américas, Puebla, Mexico, [maikol.elizondola@udlap.mx](mailto:maikol.elizondola@udlap.mx) : *Understanding Health Satisfaction in Latin America And The Caribbean*

Lavínia Pessanha, Brazilian Institute of Geographie and Statistics, Brazil, [lavinia.pessanha@ibge.gov.br](mailto:lavinia.pessanha@ibge.gov.br); Paulo Vicente Mitchell, Brazilian institute of Geographie and Statistics, Brazil, [paulo.mitchell@ibge.gov.br](mailto:paulo.mitchell@ibge.gov.br) : *Social Indicators, Food Security and Basic Human Being Needs: The Brazilian Case*

Marta G. Rivera Ferre, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain, [martaguadalupe.rivera@uab.es](mailto:martaguadalupe.rivera@uab.es) : *Food Sovereignty indicators at the community level in Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Spain*

Sandra Fachelli, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain, [sandra.fachelli@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.fachelli@gmail.com): *Social stratification in Argentina: an inter-temporal analysis*

**Session 5: The Role of Social Indicators to Inform Public Policies: Welfare State and Education**

**Chair: Mariano Rojas, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales-Mexico and Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla, Mexico, [mariano.rojas.h@gmail.com](mailto:mariano.rojas.h@gmail.com)**

Presenters:

Alexis Tala, Warsaw University, Poland, [alexitala@yahoo.fr](mailto:alexitala@yahoo.fr): *Building a Robust Wellbeing Monitoring System for Social Policy. Some Methodological Issues*

Wolfgang Glatzer, University of Frankfurt, Germany, [Glatzer@soz.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:Glatzer@soz.uni-frankfurt.de) : *The Development of the Welfare State and Social Cohesion. Signals of Social Indicators*

Sunnee Billingsley, Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain, [sunneeb@gmail.com](mailto:sunneeb@gmail.com) : *The balance of welfare provision: An indicator of decommodification*

Dina Frommert, Deutsche Rentenversicherung Bund, Berlin, Germany, [dina.frommert@drv-bund.de](mailto:dina.frommert@drv-bund.de) ; Thorsten Heien, TNS Infratest Sozialforschung, Munich,

Germany, [thorsten.heien@tns-infratest.com](mailto:thorsten.heien@tns-infratest.com) : *Providing relevant information for the policy debate - The influence of individual life courses on future retirement incomes*

Patrick Sachweh, University of Bremen, Germany, [psachweh@qsss.uni-bremen.de](mailto:psachweh@qsss.uni-bremen.de); Sigrun Olafsdottir, Boston University, USA, [sigrun@bu.edu](mailto:sigrun@bu.edu) : *The Welfare State and Equality? Stratification Realities and Aspirations in three Welfare Regimes*

Karina Frainer, University of Constance, Germany, [kfrainer@yahoo.com](mailto:kfrainer@yahoo.com) : *PISA Assessment Results: What Brazil and Germany are doing with them?*

### **Session 6: Measuring Sustainability and Social Capital – Are Thing Getting Better or Worse?**

**Chair: Valerie Möller, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa,**  
[V.Moller@ru.ac.za](mailto:V.Moller@ru.ac.za)

Presenters:

Carmit Lubanov, Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies - Environmental Policy Center, Israel, [don1298@netvision.net.il](mailto:don1298@netvision.net.il) : *Social Indicators in Israel: A 'Conceptual Model' of Combining Sustainability Measurement Theory and Local Practice*

Ulla Rosenström, Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki, Finland,  
[Ulla.Rosenstrom@ymparisto.fi](mailto:Ulla.Rosenstrom@ymparisto.fi) ; Jussi Simpura, National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health (Stakes), Helsinki, Finland, [jussi.simpura@stakes.fi](mailto:jussi.simpura@stakes.fi) : *Improving the usability of the multitude of indicator sets: views on the usefulness of a national indicator portal in Finland*

Robin Richards, Community Agency for Social Enquiry (C A S E), Johannesburg, South Africa, [robinr@netactive.co.za](mailto:robinr@netactive.co.za) : *Working for Water: a case study on the impact of a South African Public Works Programme in improving the quality of life of programme beneficiaries*

Melissa A. Young, State University of New York, USA, [mayoun03@syr.edu](mailto:mayoun03@syr.edu) : *Exploring Sustainability At a Local Scale: Bridging The Gap Between Local Residents, Local Officials, And Experts*

Honglin Chen, The University of Hong Kong, China, [honglin@hkusua.hku.hk](mailto:honglin@hkusua.hku.hk) : *Social capital indicators as a public policy tool in China*

Chaime Marcuello-Servós, Zaragoza University, Spain, [chaime@unizar.es](mailto:chaime@unizar.es) : *Social Efficiency Indicators in Non Profit Organizations*

### **Session 7: Indicators and Their Use to Guide Public Policies: Migration, Gender and Poverty**

**Chair: Liz Eckermann, Deakin University, Geelong, Australia,**  
[liz.eckermann@deakin.edu.au](mailto:liz.eckermann@deakin.edu.au)

Presenters:

Rob V. Bijl, The Netherlands Institute for Social Research / SCP, The Hague, Netherlands, [r.bijl@scp.nl](mailto:r.bijl@scp.nl) : *Evaluating the social integration of immigrants: how to measure successes and failures?*

Zuleica Oliveira, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, [oliveirazuleica@yahoo.com.br](mailto:oliveirazuleica@yahoo.com.br) : *Cultural Gender Index*

Katharina Mahne, Oliver Huxhold, German Centre of Gerontology, Berlin, Germany, [katharina.mahne@dza.de](mailto:katharina.mahne@dza.de) : *The transition to motherhood and quality of life – living conditions do matter*

Eva Sierminska, CEPS/INSTEAD, Differdange, Luxembourg, [eva.sierminska@ceps.lu](mailto:eva.sierminska@ceps.lu) ; Markus M. Grabka, German Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP) DIW, Berlin, Germany, [mgrabka@diw.de](mailto:mgrabka@diw.de) ; Joachim R. Frick, German Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP) DIW, Berlin, Germany, [jfrick@diw.de](mailto:jfrick@diw.de): *Examining the gender wealth gap within households*

Elvira Pereira, Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal, [epereira@iscsp.utl.pt](mailto:epereira@iscsp.utl.pt) ; José António Pereirinha, Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal, [pereirin@iseq.utl.pt](mailto:pereirin@iseq.utl.pt) : *Measuring poverty using social indicators: the development of an index of deprivation to measure rural-urban poverty differences in Portugal*

Stef Adriaenssens, European University College, Brussels, Belgium, [stef.adriaenssens@ehsal.be](mailto:stef.adriaenssens@ehsal.be) : *Wellbeing And Capabilities Of Beggars*